

I have indicated, I shall acquiesce, but do not assign reasons for it that minister to prejudice and injustice.

From Josiah Turner, Jr.

UNC

Hillsboro',

April, [1862.]

I am not able to write, but I employ the pen of another to say you owe it to your country, yourself, and your four sons in the Army, that you will not suffer the choice of your countrymen to fall upon such little men as Clarke⁶⁷ and Johnston.⁶⁸ In the present important crisis, I give it as my opinion, you have only to consent to be a candidate for Governor, for you to be elected by a larger majority than was ever given to any candidate.⁶⁹

I hope you will consider it well. It is time the matter was before the people.

I have no doubt our men suffer in public esteem because of Robinson's⁷⁰ folly. No officer was consulted. I ventured to give my opinion, unasked for, upon the easy victory we would have if we went dismounted. I suggested [*sic*] also the difficulty of going mounted; But I am leaving the subject matter of my letter. Governors have nowadays, almost as much power as Presidents, and it is a curse to any country to have such as afflict us.

Believing that you will consider and do what is best for the country, I remain.

*From William A. Graham, Jr.
to Susan Washington Graham*

DUKE

Camp near Kinston

May 2, 1862

As I have orders to go on picket in the morning, I will drop you a few lines to night [*sic*]. Branch's Brigade has been ordered

⁶⁷ Henry Toole Clark

⁶⁸ William Johnston

⁶⁹ At this time several newspapers including the *Raleigh Standard*, *Henderson Times*, and *Hillsborough Recorder* were advocating Graham's election as governor.

⁷⁰ Turner was blaming the Confederate losses in the recent skirmish at Gillett's farm (Onslow County) on Lieutenant Colonel William G. Robinson who was wounded and captured. Barrett, *Civil War in North Carolina*, 124-125.